

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 L-02 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /077 W

----- 094161

R 301225Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7335

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0226

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TD

SUBJ: TRADE ACT OF 1974

REF: STATE 282967; (B) STATE 12512; (C) BRIDGETOWN 0122

1. ON JANUARY 3, THIS EMBASSY SENT A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO GOTT AND LETTERS FROM AMBASSADOR TO MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, WITH COPIES TO OTHER KEY TRADE OFFICIALS, TRANSMITTING TEXT OF TITLE V OF TRADE ACT AND MAKING POINTS OUTLINED REF (A). OUR NOTE EMPHASIZED THAT BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES MUST EXPRESS DESIRE TO BE SO DESIGNATED. WE LATER SENT GOTT OFFICIALS INFORMAL COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE TRADE ACT, PHOTOCOPIED FROM A PHOTOCOPY RECEIVED BY USIS. WE SUBSEQUENTLY FOLLOWED-UP WITH A SECOND LETTER TO MINISTER AND KEY OFFICIALS TRANSMITTING GIST OF COMMENTS ON TREATMENT OF ASSOCIATION OF COUNTRIES CONTAINED IN REF (B), AND REMINDED MINISTRY THAT USG HOPES FOR QUICK RESPONSE. SENIOR ECONOMIST AT MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TOLD EMBOFF "GOTT DEFINITELY WISHES TO BE DESIGNATED AS  
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BENEFICIARY", AND INDICATED THAT HIS MINISTRY IS

DRAFTING A REPLY TO BE SENT THROUGH MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO USG. HE GAVE IMPRESSION THAT GOTT PROBABLY WILL APPLY AS INDIVIDUAL BENEFICIARY BUT INDICATED THAT TRINIDAD WILL CONSULT WITH CARICOM PARTNERS ON THIS MATTER.

2. ONLY OTHER DIRECT COMMENTS ABOUT TRADE ACT MADE BY SENIOR GOTT OFFICIALS ARE VIEWS OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE PERMANENT SECRETARY EXPRESSED TO EMBOFF LAST WEEK. HE STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE "CARTEL" PROVISIONS, AND SAID THAT HE FEARED THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS "STRONG HOSTILITY TO COUNTRIES WHICH FORM PRODUCER GROUPS" MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED TO OPIC, EXIMBANK AND OTHER U.S. FINANCIAL LEGISLATION. EMBOFF OUTLINED FOR PERMANENT SECRETARY DEPARTMENT'S VIEW THAT OPEC IS THE ONLY CARTEL THUS FAR INELIGIBLE FOR GSP UNDER TRADE ACT PROVISIONS. GOTT OFFICIAL REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED HIS FEAR THAT NOW THAT DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF SOME LDC'S IS FORMALLY A PART OF U.S. TRADE LEGISLATION, IT MAY BECOME COMMON IN OTHER U.S. LEGISLATION AFFECTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. AGREE WITH OBSERVATION REF (C) THAT REVERSE PREFERENCE ISSUE MAY BE OBSTACLE FOR CARICOM COUNTRIES, PENDING COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH UK/EEC. GOTT, FOR INSTANCE, HAS PREVIOUSLY STATED ITS OPPOSITION IN PRINCIPLE TO REVERSE PREFERENCES, BUT IT HAS NEVER ACTED TO WITHDRAW THEM.

4. AFTER ABOVE PARAGRAPHS WRITTEN, DCM MET WITH PERMANENT SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (ABDULAH) ON OTHER BUSINESS AND ABDULAH COMMENTED THAT GOTT DID NOT HAVE ANY COMPLAINT OF ITS OWN RE TRADE ACT AND WOULD BE COMMUNICATING WITH US IN NEAR FUTURE CONCERNING PREFERENCES AFTER COMPLETION OF DETAILED REVIEW BY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. HIS COMMENTS THUS REINFORCE INFORMATION IN PARA ONE ABOVE.  
MILLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE LAW, TEXT, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS), DIPLOMATIC NOTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PORTO00226  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** D750034-0522  
**From:** PORT OF SPAIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975016/aaaaafhv.tel  
**Line Count:** 94  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** TRADE ACT OF 1974  
**TAGS:** ETRD, TD, US  
**To:** STATE  
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